2. Scheduled Castes Development Corporation

Year	Loan disbursed (Rs. in lakhs)	Persons benefitted
1995-96	54202.30	396930
1996-97	(Figures will be available only during 1997-98)	

(c) Yes. Sir.

[English]

Schemes for Aged Persons

772. SHRI PINAKI MISHRA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the schemes and programmes to be launched by the Government on the World Elders Day;

(b) whether any habitation and travel facilities are proposed to be provided to the destitute aged persons; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to provide these facilities to the destitute aged women?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Employment to Disabled Unemployed Youth

773. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of unemployed youth among the disabled and non-disabled;

(b) the steps being taken to absorb the disabled persons in the gainful employment;

(c) whether remuneration paid to the disabled are less than that or paid to their counterparts in the non-disabled category;

(d) if so, the measures taken to rectify the imbalance;

(e) whether there is any proposal for providing special benefits, privileges or concessions to the relatives of the disabled; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) According to the information furnished by Directorate General of Employment and Training, out of 3,66,91,500 persons in the Live Register of Employment Exchanges 32,91,700 have been placed under employment upto 31.12.94. The corresponding figures for the disabled persons are 3,40,304 and 52,859 respectively. The respective percentages of unemployment among the disabled and non-disabled are 84.47 and 91.03.

(b) Statment - I showing the steps being taken to absorb disabled persons in the gainful employment is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d). No information is available. However, there is no provision of fixing different rates for disabled persons under Minimum Wages Act, 1948.

(e) and (f). Statement - II containing brief write-up on such concessions by the Central Government is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT - I

(i) In terms of Section 33 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, every appropriate Government shall appoint in every establishment such percentage of vacancies not less then three per cent for persons or class of persons with disability of which one per cent each shall be reserved for persons suffering from - (i) blindness or low vision; (ii) hearing impairment; (iii) locomotor disability or cerebral palsy, in the posts identified for each disability. Even before the Act came into force, 3 per cent vacancies have been reserved for physically handicapped, 1 per cent each for the physical, hearing and orthopaedically handicapped in Group C and D posts in Central Government and Public Sector Undertakings. Similar reservations have been given by some State Govts. Apart from this, age concession and relaxation in medical standards are also available to handicapped candidates.

(ii) 41 Special Employment Exchanges and 47 Special Cells for the handicapped persons have been set up exclusively to help the handicapped in getting gainful employment. Besides, the Normal Employment Exchange also help the handicapped persons in finding suitable employment.

(iii) Seventeen Vocational Rehabilitation Centres have been set up to assess the residual ability of the disabled, arrange their training and place them in employment.

(iv) Self-employment is promoted through the following :

(a) Allotment of vending stalls, kiosks and petty shops;

(b) Loans from Nationalised Banks at nominal rates of interest under differential Rate of Interest Scheme;